



# Tie Dyeing with Natural Dyes

Cedarbank School

Fashion and Textiles and  
science at work

# Developing Transferrable Skills



- **Communication** – reading, watching
- **Employability** - using organisational skills / ability to learn and adapt
- **Problem solving** - develop and test possible solutions / analyse and evaluate results
- **Thinking** - remembering, identifying, understanding, applying, analysing, evaluating, and creating.
- **Enterprise** – through creation of a product

# Tie Dyeing with Natural Dyes

You will need:

- white or light coloured 100% cotton fabric \*
- rubber bands / hair bands and string
- if you want yellow fabric use turmeric, (1 tablespoon to 6 cups of water in a large pot)
- if you want brown fabric use coffee, (1/2 cup of coffee powder to 6 cups of water in a pot)
- white vinegar
- 2 pots – 1 must be large
- an apron or old shirt so that you do not get dye on your clothes

***Please ask a parent/carer if there are any old white t-shirts / white cotton pillow cases that you can use for dyeing with natural dyes.***

# Video Links Help

**Do you need to watch a demonstration?**

Prepare your fabric for tie dyeing: <https://www.wikihow.com/Tie-Dye>

Making a plant based dye:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yyEpSOeNIC4>

# What is a Natural Dye?

The majority of natural dyes are vegetable dyes made from plant sources - roots, berries, bark, leaves, and wood. Natural dyes are safe to use as they do not have chemicals.

Different plants will produce different dye colours.

**What colour do you think a carrot would dye your white t-shirt?**

**What colour do you think red cabbage would dye white cloth?**

To create your own natural dye needs preparation, ingredients and cooking. To dye your clothes you need to prepare the fabric by washing it thoroughly first and then by pre-treating it with a substance that helps the colour bind.







# HOMEMADE FABRIC DYES

from natural materials



## Which foods can you use to dye fabric?

**For green shades: spinach, peppermint leaves, grass, nettles.**

**For orange shades: carrots, onion skins**

**For brown shades: tea, coffee**

**For pink shades: plum skins, any pink or red coloured berries, cherries, red or pink roses petals**

**For yellow shades: sunflower petals, dandelion flowers, paprika, turmeric**

**For blue shades: red cabbage, elderberries, blueberries, purple grapes**

**For a dark grey shade: blackberries**

**For a reddish purple shade: beetroot**

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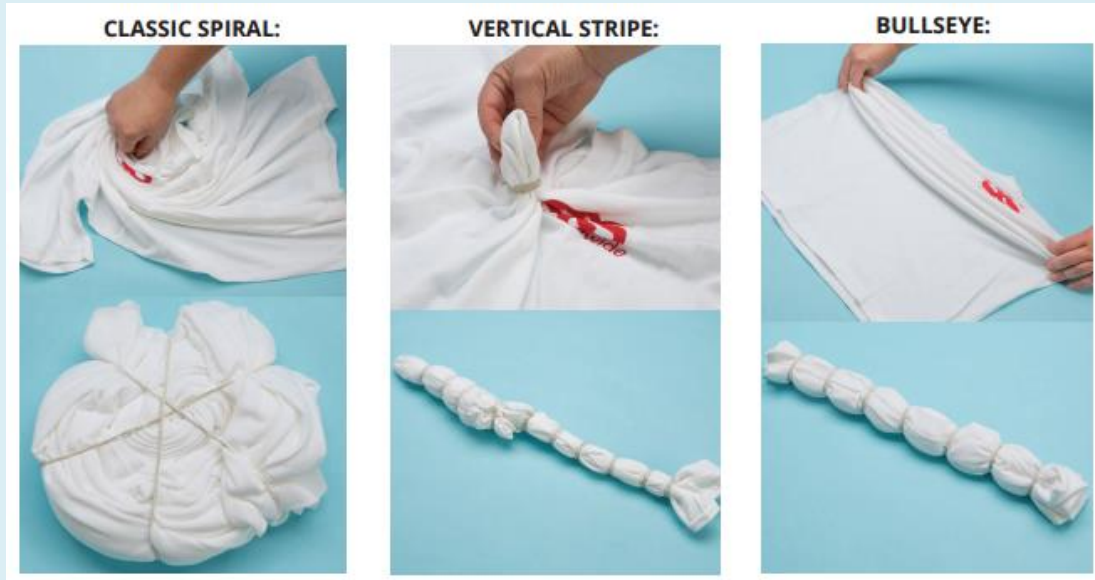
# Preparing Fabric

## Step 1:

Prepare your fabric for tie dyeing <https://www.wikihow.com/Tie-Dye>

To get a tie dye effect you have to tie up your fabric for the design.

Use rubber bands to create a pattern on your fabric Once you're satisfied with your design, it's time to treat your fabric with a fixative before dyeing.



<https://artroommess.files.wordpress.com/2015/03/tie-dye-steps-001.jpg>



# Preparing Fabric



## Step 2: for Pot 1

We are making a plant based dye.

Mix 1 part vinegar to 4 parts water and bring to the boil.

My fabric was large so I had to double the amount (2 parts vinegar to 8 parts water)

Simmer for 1 hour. When done simmering, run fabric under cool water and wring out a bit of the excess water.



# Preparing Natural Dye

## Step 2: Preparing the Natural Dye, Pot 2

While your fabric is being treated in the vinegar water mix, you should prepare your natural dye in the other pot.



### Choose your colour –

yellow fabric use turmeric, (1 tablespoon to 6 cups of water in a large pot)



brown fabric use coffee (1/2 cup of coffee powder to 6 cups of water in a large pot)

Bring your solution to a boil and then simmer for 1 hour.

### Step 3:

Put your fabric back into the large pot and pour in your dye mix. Let it simmer here until you're happy with the colour. You can even leave it overnight.

Rinse your fabric under running water until the water runs clear.





**Step 4:** Allow to dry naturally and then iron on high heat to set the colour.

Machine wash in cold water and dry before wearing.



Repeat washings may cause colours to fade, but you can re-dye your item if needed.

Post a photo of your work on your Teams page.